ELECTRIC PRINTING FOR THE BLIND

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Literary Digest
Dec. 11, 1926

"It is one thing to take chances with a danger that can be seen or otherwise sensed, but quite another to risk a danger such as carbon monoxid, which strikes without warning, and strikes to kill. The only safe course is, 'never take a chance.'

"Even tho you may have been in a closed garage with a motor running at some time in the past, without disastrous results, remember that conditions of ventilation may have belied appearances. It is just as likely that the next time may be the fatal one.

"And don't let others—particularly children, employees, or anybody for whose physical welfare you are in any sense responsible—take this risk.

"Always bear in mind that a very little carbon-monoxid gas is exceedingly dangerous: Three minutes' exposure may cause death."

ELECTRIC PRINTING FOR THE BLIND

BRAILLE TEXT FOR BLIND PERSONS, enabling them to read with their finger-tips, has the drawback of being very costly, not only on account of the bulk of the soft paper required for making letters raised in relief, but also because of the labor involved. An ingenious method for automatically reproducing any given text in Braille letters has recently been invented by a clever mechanical genius near Paris, M. Albert Thomas. The principle of his photo-electric machine is simple, according to a late number of *L'Illustration* (Paris). It utilizes the property possest by selenium, of varying in electrical conductivity, according to the amount of illumination which it receives. The text to be reproduced is fixt to a small carriage having a to-and-fro movement. This moves forward gradually so that each letter of the text receives in turn the light from a small electric lamp of low power.

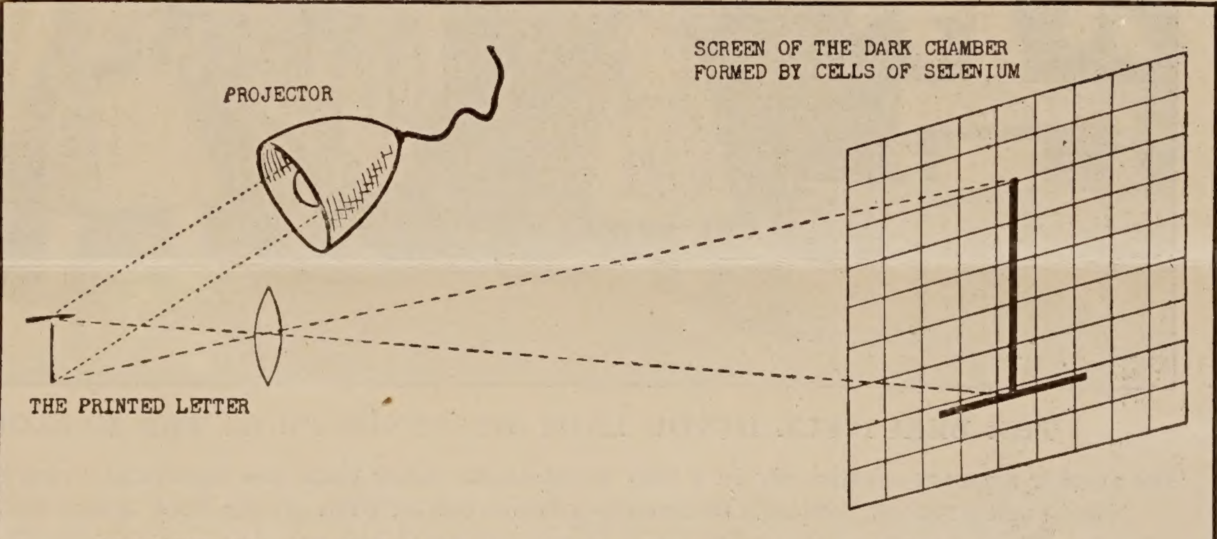


DIAGRAM OF THE PRINTING APPARATUS FOR THE BLIND

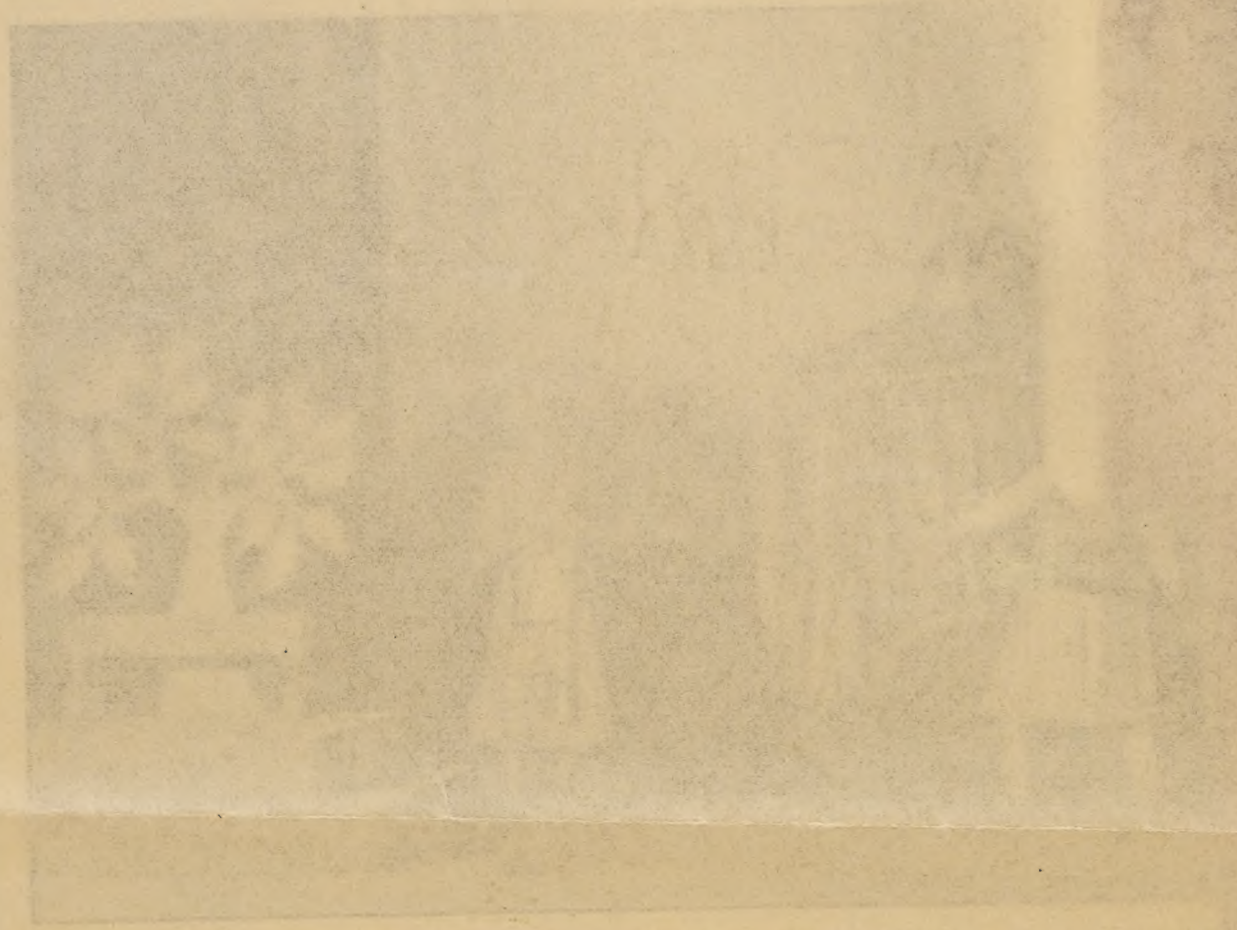
Each letter of a printed paper placed on a revolving carriage passes before a projector and its image takes shape in a dark chamber on cells of selenium. They are electrically bound to metallic stems which reproduce the letter in the corresponding Braille character.

At the instant that any given letter is illuminated it passes in front of the object lens of a dark chamber, whose sensitive plate is replaced by a group of small selenium cells arranged in checker-board fashion. These are quite independent of each other, being electrically insulated. Each cell is connected with an electrical circuit controlled by a metal rod which rises and falls under the operation of an electro-magnet which receives the current at the same instant that the cell is illuminated. Each letter corresponds to a certain number of illuminated cells and is translated, therefore, into an equal number of embossed points which are formed by the fall of the metal rod as soon as the current ceases to pass. The movement of the carriage brings each letter in turn in front of the camera lens.

One difficulty apparently remains to be solved. This consists in overcoming the inertia of the selenium, which retains its conductibility for a certain time after it has ceased to be illuminated. Here is perhaps an opportunity for some American inventor.

LETTERS

LITERATURE DRAMA MUS



THE BEAUTIFUL HINDU LADY DESCENDS FROM THE BULLOC

The answer appears exclusively in a play from India, more than one thousand years ol
New York's newest ventures in repertory are credited with giving both [illegible] and

REPERTORY ARRIVES I

"SOMETHING [illegible] takes [illegible] among the theaters," [illegible] back from a [illegible] of [illegible] beyond the familiar playhouse district that lines Broadway. The new movement, or a very old movement in a new form, as some critics have it, has appeared in two widely separated theaters, the spacious Fourteenth Street Theater, west of Sixth Avenue, forsaken by [illegible] for many years, and the Neighborhood Playhouse, far on the [illegible] side of Manhattan Island.

"Repertory, the so-[illegible] disease, afflicting its victims with [illegible]," remarks John Anderson, in the New York *Evening Post*, "is supposed to be a panacea, curing all the [illegible] of the stage." Mr. Anderson is somewhat skeptical, [illegible] that even [illegible] greatness of an idea which has produced, for one instance, so [illegible] company as [illegible] the Moscow Art Theater [illegible] repertory companies must have, among other things, great [illegible]." With fewer qualms, Alexander Woollcott, of the New York *World*, announces that "[illegible] of Broadway— usually in the [illegible]

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